

WELSH

26 NOV 1949



PONTARDAWE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1947



NEATH:

W. WHITTINGTON LTD., WIND STREET

—
1949

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PONTARDAWE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1947

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Pontardawe Rural District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1947. The Report is presented in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, as given in Circular 170/47 (Wales).

The statistics published do not show any marked change from previous years, although it is gratifying to note that no death was recorded from maternal causes and that the infantile mortality rate was lower than that of previous years. A study will show that on this occasion the rate discussed was just a little higher than that for England and Wales.

Your services as a Maternity and Child Welfare Authority were maintained, and efforts made to effect what improvements were possible. An important feature relating to these services was the decision to appoint a full-time health visitor for the Clydach District. Special efforts were made to stress the importance of the vitamin supplements which were being distributed to expectant mothers and young children. The Health Visitors took particular interest in diphtheria immunisation with the view to persuading parents to take advantage of the facilities offered. Towards the end of the year it became my duty to select maternity cases from the District for confinement at the West Glamorgan Hospital. Under a new arrangement with the County Authority we were allowed 20 beds per month at that institution for the purpose mentioned. The cases in most need were selected for the beds provided.

The District's milk and water supplies were kept under close supervision and samples taken for examination when and where it was thought necessary. The importance of wholesome water and a clean milk supply was discussed from time to time in the course of the year, but even so it is still thought worth mentioning that where these human necessities are not of the required standard they cause many serious human ailments.

The Gellynudd Isolation Hospital continued to function throughout the year and rendered useful service. Your Authority has been amply repaid for the money expended on this Institution during the immediate past. In this year we saw the Hospital accepted for hospital purposes by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board, which came into operation as a result of the National Health Act, 1946.

The housing conditions of the District's population brought many problems during the year and every effort was made to give the comfort and relief possible. Your Council's re-housing programme came into full operation and consequently it was found possible to re-house 86 families.

The question of housing as it affects my Department does not rest entirely on the matter of re-housing but we are also largely concerned with methods of improving existing accommodation. A study of the Senior Sanitary Inspector's section of this Report will show the efforts being made in this respect.

During this year the Staff of the Department moved into Ynisderw House and all your Health Services have since been administered from these premises. The purchase of Ynisderw House enabled the health functions to be properly developed, organised and administered for the first time in the history of your Authority.

With the facilities now available full and proper attention can be given to the social, hygienic and environmental problems of the District's population. The proper development of services under these headings can be of immense value and prevent much suffering since they deal with every factor affecting health, both of the individual and the community as a whole. We have now also facilities for health education—the most potent weapon in the armoury of the servants of social medicine.

In conclusion it is desired to acknowledge an indebtedness to the Public Health Staff for their willing and loyal co-operation, and to express thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the interest taken in the work and the many helpful suggestions received.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ALUN EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Chairman of the Public Health Committee—

Councillor John Davies, J.P.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health J. Alun Evans, M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector Ieuan Lewis, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,
(Meat and Foods)

Additional Sanitary Ins-
pector G. A. Rees, M.S.I.A.

Health Visitor M. T. Morgan, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Administrative & Clerical

Senior Assistant John Rogers.

H. Wynne Jones Mary E. Davies

Rufus Thomas Gwyneth Davies

Lewis J. Williams Marion Jenkins

Elwyn Lewis (part-year) Katie M. Thomas (part-year)

Consultant for Difficult Dr. J. Lloyd Davies, M.D., M.R.C.P.,
Obstetric Cases F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Gellynudd Isolation Hospital

Medical Superintendent Medical Officer of Health.

Matron M. Rhys Williams, S.R.N., S.F.R.N.

Health Visitors (*Part Time*)

Pontardawe Nurses G. Pryce and N. Davies.

Clydach Nurses M. Jenkins and A. Carr.

The Nurses mentioned above are under the control of various District Nursing Associations but as grants are made by the Council to these Associations the Nurses act as part-time health visitors in their respective areas. They attend at Infant Welfare Centres, visit children of pre-school age for health purposes, endeavour to persuade parents to consent to the diphtheria immunisation of their children, and pay visits to the homes of sufferers from tuberculosis.

Midwives

The Midwives practising in the District are controlled by the Glamorgan County Council as that Authority is the Supervising Authority for this Area's Midwives.

SECTION A—STATISTICS

| | | | |
|--|------|--|--------------|
| Area as given on Ordnance Maps | .... | .... | 34,969 acres |
| Registrar General's Estimate of Population | .... |  | 33,110 |
| Rateable Value | .... | .... | £125,609 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate | .... | .... | £465 |
| Birth-rate per R.G.'s birth figures : | 17·6 | per 1,000 estimated civilian population. | |

Live-birth rate per R.G.'s birth figures : 16·8 per 1,000 estimated civilian population.

Still-birth rate per R.G.'s still-birth figures : 42·9 per 1,000 live and still-births.

Death-rate 12·9 per 1,000 estimated civilian population.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

| | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 live and still births per Registrar- General's figures |
|---|--------|--|
| No. 29 Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis | Nil | Nil |
| No. 30 Other Maternal Causes | Nil | Nil |
| Death-rate of Infants under one year of age : | | |
| All Infants per 1,000 live-births | 45·0 | |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live-births | 44·3 | |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live-births | 66·7 | |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 55 | |
| ,, ,, Measles (all ages) | 1 | |
| ,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) | Nil | |
| ,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | 1 | |

Report under the Factories Act, 1937.

The factories functioning in the District were kept under supervision during the year and where defects were found which came within the jurisdiction of this Authority, the people concerned were issued with instructions to effect the necessary improvements.

The defects reported by H.M. Inspector of Factories received attention and the changes occurring in the various industries and notified to us were recorded in our Register.

ANNUAL REPORT UNDER THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART I. OF THE ACT.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors):

| Premises (1) | M/c line No. (2) | Number on Register (3) | Number of | | | M/c line No. (7) |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | Inspections (4) | Written notices (5) | Occupiers prosecuted (6) | |
| (i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 1 | 29 | 15 | 4 | Nil | 1 |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 2 | 104 | 37 | 11 | Nil | 2 |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) | 3 | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 133 | 52 | 15 | Nil | |

2—Cases in which Defects were found.

| Particulars (1) | M/c line No. (2) | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7) | M/c line No. (8) |
|---|---------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| | | Found (3) | Remedied (4) | To H.M. Inspector (5) | Referred By H.M. Inspector (6) | | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 4 | 9 | 9 | — | 3 | Nil | 4 |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 |
| Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) | 7 | 1 | 1 | — | — | Nil | 7 |
| Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6) | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | 8 |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)— | | | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 9 | 2 | 1 | — | — | Nil | 9 |
| (b) Unsuitable or Defective | 10 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 10 |
| (c) Not separate for Sexes | 11 | — | — | — | — | — | 11 |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | 12 | 2 | 2 | — | 2 | Nil | 12 |
| TOTAL | 60 | 15 | 14 | Nil | 5 | Nil | 60 |

PART VIII. OUTWORK SECTIONS 110 and 111.

No action became necessary under this part of the Act in the course of the year.

| Code No. | Causes of Death | Sex | Totals | 0-2 | 2-5 | 5-15 | 15-25 | 25-45 | 45-65 | Over 65 | Clydach | Pontardawe | Ystalyfera | Gwaun-cae-gurwen |
|----------|------------------------------------|----------|--------|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|------------|------------|------------------|
| 5 | Diphtheria ... | {M F} | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| 6 | Respiratory Tuberculosis ... | {M F} | 17 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 3 |
| 7 | Other Tuberculosis ... | {M F} | 7 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 8 | Syphilitic Disease ... | {M F} | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... |
| 9 | Influenza ... | {M F} | 4 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 10 | Measles ... | {M F} | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 13F | Cancer of Uterus ... | F | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| 14 | Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... | {M F} | 7 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 15 | Cancer of Breast ... | F | 6 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 16 | Cancer of all Other Sites ... | {M F} | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 14 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| 17 | Diabetes ... | {M F} | 21 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 1 |
| 18 | Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ... | {M F} | 16 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| 19 | Heart Disease ... | {M F} | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 10 | 9 | 2 | 2 |
| 20 | Other Circulatory ... | {M F} | 23 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 8 | 15 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 21 | Bronchitis ... | {M F} | 25 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 16 | 11 | 16 | 10 | 11 |
| | | | 49 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 9 | 39 | 9 | 19 | 16 | 14 |
| | | | 57 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 51 | 41 | 16 | 16 | 14 |
| | | | 12 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| | | | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 2 | ... | 1 |
| | | | 17 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 5 | 8 | ... | 4 |
| | | | 8 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 3 | 4 | 1 | ... |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|--|-----|----------|----------|----------|-----|-----|-----|--------|-----|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----|--------|----------|----------|----------|
| 22 | Pneumonia | ... | {M F} | 9 2 | 4 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 1 | 2 ... | 2 ... | 2 ... | ... | ... | 3 1 | 3 1 | 3 ... |
| 23 | Other Respiratory ... | ... | {M F} | 15 3 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 1 | 7 1 | ... | 6 ... | ... | ... | 1 ... | 4 2 | 10 1 |
| 24 | Ulceration of Stomach or Duodenum ... | ... | {M F} | 1 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 ... | ... | ... |
| 25 | Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... | ... | {M F} | 1 ... | 1 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 ... | ... | ... |
| 26 | Appendicitis | ... | {M F} | 1 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 ... | ... | ... |
| 27 | Other Digestive ... | ... | {M F} | 7 4 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 ... | 2 3 | ... | 3 1 | ... | ... | 4 1 | 1 ... | 2 1 |
| 28 | Nephritis ... | ... | {M F} | 10 13 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 3 | ... | 7 10 | ... | ... | 4 1 | 1 1 | 1 5 |
| 31 | Premature Birth ... | ... | {M F} | 4 5 | 4 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 1 | 1 1 | 1 1 | 1 3 |
| 32 | Congenital Causes ... | ... | {M F} | 5 1 | 4 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 1 | 1 1 | 3 ... |
| 33 | Suicide ... | ... | {M F} | 4 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 2 ... | ... | ... | 1 ... | 1 ... | 1 ... |
| 34 | Road Traffic Accidents | ... | {M F} | 2 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 ... | 1 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 ... | 1 ... | ... |
| 35 | Other Violent Causes | ... | {M F} | 10 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 ... | 5 ... | ... | 1 1 | ... | ... | 1 ... | 4 ... | 2 ... |
| 36 | All Other Causes ... | ... | {M F} | 15 19 | 2 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 1 | ... | ... | 2 1 | 3 5 | ... | 7 10 | ... | ... | 3 4 | 8 4 | 2 6 |
| | TOTALS | ... | ... | 426 | 27 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 32 | 123 | 230 | 106 | 129 | 89 | 102 | | | | | |

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS 1947

| DISTRICT | Estimated Population 1947 | BIRTHS | | DEATHS | | INFANT MORTALITY | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Number of Births | Rate per 1,000 Population | Number of Deaths | Rate per 1,000 Population | Deaths under 1 year | Rate per 1,000 Births |
| Administrative County | 712,070 | 14,803 | 20.8 | 9,312 | 13.1 | 752 | 51 |
| Urban Districts | 520,900 | 11,093 | 21.3 | 7,107 | 13.6 | 585 | 53 |
| Rural Districts | 191,170 | 3,710 | 19.4 | 2,205 | 11.5 | 167 | 45 |
| England and Wales | ... | ... | 20.5 | ... | 12.0 | ... | 41 |
| URBAN DISTRICTS— | | | | | | | |
| Aberdare | 39,780 | 721 | 18.1 | 627 | 15.8 | 45 | 62 |
| Barry | 38,480 | 895 | 23.3 | 482 | 12.5 | 43 | 48 |
| Bridgend | 12,710 | 263 | 20.7 | 143 | 11.3 | 10 | 35 |
| Caerphilly | 32,260 | 793 | 24.6 | 431 | 13.4 | 55 | 69 |
| Cowbridge | 1,290 | 9 | 7.0 | 16 | 12.4 | ... | 00 |
| Gelligaer | 35,810 | 830 | 23.2 | 437 | 12.2 | 53 | 64 |
| Glyncorrwg | 8,770 | 215 | 24.5 | 131 | 14.9 | 12 | 56 |
| Llchwyr | 25,680 | 476 | 18.5 | 279 | 10.9 | 17 | 36 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|------|-------|------|-----|----|
| Maesteg | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 529 | 23.2 | 312 | 13.7 | 32 | 60 |
| Mountain Ash | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 654 | 20.8 | 468 | 14.9 | 48 | 73 |
| Neath | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 632 | 20.1 | 395 | 12.5 | 21 | 33 |
| Ogmore and Garw | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 462 | 20.1 | 307 | 13.3 | 22 | 48 |
| Penarth | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 377 | 21.9 | 224 | 13.0 | 16 | 42 |
| Pontypridd | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 853 | 22.0 | 530 | 13.7 | 48 | 56 |
| Porthcawl | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 169 | 19.6 | 145 | 16.8 | 7 | 41 |
| Port Talbot | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 905 | 22.2 | 512 | 12.5 | 36 | 40 |
| Rhondda | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,310 | 20.7 | 1,668 | 14.9 | 120 | 52 |
| RURAL DISTRICTS— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cardiff | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 582 | 15.8 | 390 | 10.6 | 19 | 33 |
| Cowbridge | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 367 | 28.0 | 145 | 11.1 | 17 | 46 |
| Gower | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 216 | 19.8 | 133 | 12.2 | 7 | 32 |
| Llantrisant | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 561 | 23.7 | 278 | 11.7 | 22 | 39 |
| Neath | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 800 | 19.9 | 472 | 11.7 | 37 | 46 |
| Penybont | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 627 | 18.8 | 361 | 10.8 | 40 | 64 |
| Pontardawe | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 557 | 16.8 | 426 | 12.9 | 25 | 45 |

**BIRTHS BELONGING TO PONTARDAWE RURAL DISTRICT,
1940-1947.**

| Year | Born in Area | | | Born Outside Area | | | Total Births | West Glamorgan Hospital | | | No. of Mothers Admitted to other Maternity Homes and Hospitals |
|------|--------------|-----|-------|-------------------|-----|-------|--------------|---|---|-----|--|
| | M. | F. | Total | M. | F. | Total | | No. of Mothers whose admission was arranged by M.O.H. | No. of Mothers whose admission was arranged privately | | |
| 1940 | 199 | 173 | 372 | 68 | 44 | 112 | 484 | 1 | 105 | 6 | |
| 1941 | 225 | 207 | 432 | 61 | 59 | 120 | 552 | 11 | 94 | 13 | |
| 1942 | 205 | 224 | 429 | 89 | 65 | 154 | 583 | 2 | 122 | 22 | |
| 1943 | 195 | 185 | 380 | 86 | 104 | 190 | 570 | 1 | 141 | 48 | |
| 1944 | 204 | 189 | 393 | 105 | 106 | 211 | 604 | 7 | 138 | 66 | |
| 1945 | 161 | 158 | 319 | 134 | 99 | 233 | 552 | 6 | 159 | 65 | |
| 1946 | 151 | 173 | 324 | 143 | 132 | 275 | 599 | 14 | 160 | 101 | |
| 1947 | 174 | 151 | 325 | 149 | 118 | 267 | 592 | 46 | 105 | 116 | |

BIRTHS DURING 1947

| <i>Month</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| JANUARY | 33 | 19 | 52 |
| FEBRUARY | 31 | 30 | 61 |
| MARCH | 32 | 32 | 64 |
| APRIL | 27 | 21 | 48 |
| MAY | 37 | 29 | 66 |
| JUNE | 25 | 17 | 42 |
| JULY | 21 | 22 | 43 |
| AUGUST | 29 | 22 | 51 |
| SEPTEMBER | 22 | 23 | 45 |
| OCTOBER | 29 | 22 | 51 |
| NOVEMBER | 19 | 13 | 32 |
| DECEMBER | 18 | 19 | 37 |
| TOTALS | 323 | 269 | 592 |

DEATHS IN VARIOUS MONTHS, 1947

| <i>Month</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| JANUARY | 26 | 22 | 48 |
| FEBRUARY | 24 | 26 | 50 |
| MARCH | 22 | 17 | 39 |
| APRIL | 12 | 15 | 27 |
| MAY | 19 | 11 | 30 |
| JUNE | 21 | 17 | 38 |
| JULY | 24 | 20 | 44 |
| AUGUST | 18 | 8 | 26 |
| SEPTEMBER | 19 | 9 | 28 |
| OCTOBER | 19 | 15 | 34 |
| NOVEMBER | 13 | 17 | 30 |
| DECEMBER | 22 | 10 | 32 |
| TOTALS | 239 | 187 | 426 |

BIRTHS IN DISTRICT, 1947.

| Month | Total Births | | CLYDACH | | | | | | PONTARDAWE | | | | | | YSTALYFERA | | | | | | GWAUNCAE-GURWEN | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----|------------|----|--------------|---|------------|---|------------|----|--------------|---|------------|---|------------|----|--------------|---|------------|---|-----------------|----|--------------|---|------------|---|
| | | | Legitimate | | Illegitimate | | Still Born | | Legitimate | | Illegitimate | | Still Born | | Legitimate | | Illegitimate | | Still Born | | Legitimate | | Illegitimate | | Still Born | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| January | 11 | 11 | 3 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 4 | - | - | - | - |
| February | 19 | 19 | 2 | 8 | - | - | - | - | 8 | 3 | - | 1 | - | - | 3 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 6 | 3 | - | - | - | - |
| March | 19 | 21 | 4 | 5 | - | - | 1 | - | 3 | 7 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 3 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 6 | - | - | - | - |
| April | 17 | 10 | 4 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |
| May | 21 | 19 | 6 | 7 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 7 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - |
| June | 13 | 9 | 4 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 3 | - | - | - | - |
| July | 12 | 9 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | 1 | 3 | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 4 | 2 | - | - | - | - |
| August | 17 | 15 | 4 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | 5 | 4 | - | - | 1 | - |
| September | 12 | 13 | 4 | 5 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 | - | 1 | - | - |
| October | 14 | 11 | 7 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 3 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | - | - | - |
| November | 10 | 4 | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| December | 9 | 10 | 1 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 4 | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS | 174 | 151 | 45 | 52 | 4 | - | 2 | 1 | 39 | 33 | 1 | 2 | 2 | - | 34 | 25 | - | - | 2 | 1 | 43 | 36 | - | 1 | 2 | - |

BIRTHS BELONGING TO DISTRICT BORN OUTSIDE AREA.

| Month | Total Births | | CLYDACH | | | | | | PONTARDAWE | | | YSTALYFERA | | | | GWAUNCAE-GURWEN | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----|------------|----|--------------|---|----|----|------------|--------------|---|------------|--------------|---|---|-----------------|--------------|---|---|
| | | | Legitimate | | Illegitimate | | | | Legitimate | Illegitimate | | Legitimate | Illegitimate | | | Legitimate | Illegitimate | | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| January | 22 | 8 | 8 | 3 | - | - | 5 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 6 | 3 | - | 1 |
| February | 12 | 11 | 2 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 4 | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 6 | 3 | - | 1 |
| March | 13 | 11 | 4 | 3 | - | - | 4 | 4 | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | 3 | 4 | - | - |
| April | 10 | 11 | 1 | 3 | - | - | 6 | 3 | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 4 | - | - |
| May | 16 | 10 | 4 | 1 | - | 1 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | 7 | 4 | - | - |
| June | 12 | 8 | 6 | 2 | - | - | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | 4 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 5 | - | - |
| July | 9 | 13 | - | 3 | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | 4 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 6 | - | - |
| August | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3 | - | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | - | 6 | 1 | - | - |
| September | 10 | 10 | 3 | 3 | - | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 4 | 2 | - | 1 |
| October | 15 | 11 | 3 | 1 | - | - | 7 | 4 | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 4 | - | - |
| November | 9 | 9 | 1 | 4 | - | - | 4 | 1 | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | - |
| December | 9 | 9 | 2 | 3 | - | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| TOTALS | 149 | 118 | 36 | 30 | - | - | 43 | 28 | - | - | - | 24 | 11 | - | - | 40 | 40 | 1 | 4 |

DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE, 1947.

| <i>Cause</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Cly- dach</i> | <i>Pontar- dawe</i> | <i>Ystaly- fera</i> | <i>G.C.G.</i> |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Toxaemia & Bedsores | .... | 1 | 1 | .... | .... | .... |
| Industrial | 8 | .... | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Misadventure | 2 | ... | 1 | .... | 1 | .... |
| TOTALS | 10 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

SUICIDE, 1947.

| | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Cly- dach</i> | <i>Pontar- dawe</i> | <i>Ystaly- fera</i> | <i>G.C.G.</i> |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Hanging | 3 | .... | .... | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Decapitation on Railway Track | 1 | .... | 1 | .... | .... | .... |
| TOTALS | 4 | .... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, 1947.

| | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Cly- dach</i> | <i>Pontar- dawe</i> | <i>Ystaly- fera</i> | <i>G.C.G.</i> |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Road Traffic Accidents | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | .... |

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT

(a) Laboratory Facilities

Throughout the year pathological specimens were sent to the City and County Laboratory, Cardiff, from the District's General Practitioners and from the Gellynudd Isolation Hospital. In special cases of urgency specimens were sent to the Beck Laboratory, Swansea.

Samples of the District's water and milk supplies were also sent to the Cardiff Laboratory for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis. The same laboratory was also used on occasion for the examination of other foods.

Samples taken :

WATER :

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------|------|----|
| Bacteriological Examinations | .... | .... | 20 |
| Chemical Analyses | .... | .... | 9 |

MILK :

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------|------|----|
| Bacteriological Examinations | .... | .... | 16 |
| Resazurin Test | .... | .... | 22 |

SEWAGE :

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|------|----|
| Sewage Analyses | .... | .... | 11 |
| Effluent Analyses | .... | .... | 11 |

The results of the sewage and effluent samples taken from the Council's sewage farms were received from the County Medical Officer of Health.

(b) Hospitals

(1) GWRHYD SMALL-POX HOSPITAL

The Hospital mentioned above continues to be kept on a care and maintenance basis. The joint caretakers, who are in residence, are responsible for cleanliness and general preparedness to accept patients should an emergency arise. The small supply of emergency equipment is held at the Gellynudd Isolation Hospital.

(2) GELLYNUDD ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The cases admitted to this hospital during the year numbered 177. The persons admitted suffered from a variety of infectious conditions.

The total given includes a number of cases from the Ystradgynlais District. These were admitted to the hospital for treatment in accordance with an arrangement made some years ago with the Ystradgynlais District Council.

This hospital continues to render useful service and now that it has been accepted by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board under the new Health Act of 1946, it is likely to function for years as an Institution giving treatment of some kind or other to those with such need.

(3) PRINCE OF WALES ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL, CARDIFF.

Under our Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme young children of pre-school age in need of specialist treatment are admitted to this hospital. In the course of the year one child was admitted by your authority for such treatment.

(4) WEST GLAMORGAN HOSPITAL

The Medical Superintendent of this Hospital accepted 44 cases for confinement in that Institution on the authority of your Medical Officer of Health. The number admitted officially largely exceeded that for previous years because of an arrangement with the County Authority which placed the onus of selecting all admissions for confinement on myself as your Medical Officer of Health.

Prior to the arrangement previously referred to a large number of expectant mothers were admitted to the West Glamorgan Hospital for confinement, as a result of agreements made between themselves and the Hospital Authorities.

(c) Ambulance Facilities

The ambulance attached to the Gellynudd Isolation Hospital is used to convey cases of infectious diseases whenever necessary. Cases being admitted to that Hospital are conveyed in this particular ambulance whether they be from our own District or from the Ystradgynlais Area.

All other cases occurring within the area needing the services of an ambulance are conveyed to their various destinations by St. John's ambulances, those attached to the various industrial concerns, or those maintained by public subscription and controlled by Public Committees.

(d) Nursing in the Home

Home nursing is performed by the Nurses attached to the various Nursing Associations which function throughout the District. Grants are made by the Council to these Associations for the services rendered by their Nurses.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

The centres maintained at Clydach, Pontardawe, Godrergraig, Ystalyfera, Cwmllynfell and Gwauncaegurwen continued to operate throughout the year. Clinic sessions were held at these centres either weekly or fortnightly according to the needs of the various areas. In previous Annual Reports Medical Officers of Health have reported the unsuitability of Clinic premises. Your Council have recognised the position and have approved a scheme which, were it not for pending legislation and difficulties regarding materials, would have resulted in these clinics being housed in different premises.

COST OF MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

The cost of administering the Maternity and Child Welfare Services operated by your Council during the year amounted to approximately £2,400, which cannot be considered excessive in view of the services rendered to the inhabitants.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly reports on Clinic activities were submitted throughout the year by the six Clinic Secretaries. The attendances at these Clinics did not show any marked difference from that of previous years. The institution of weekly Infant Clinics at Pontardawe was responsible for some improvement in the attendances at that particular centre.

SUB-COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS

The arrangements necessary for the examination and treatment of the various cases mentioned below were made with the County and other Authorities.

| <i>Cases of Special Nourishment</i> | <i>Dental Cases</i> | <i>Ortho- paedic Cases</i> | <i>Ear, Nose and Throat Cases</i> | <i>Ophthalmic Cases</i> | <i>Home Helps</i> |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 | 6 | 16 | 5 | 8 | 3 |

The fact that we were able to submit these young children for examination and treatment at an early age is thought to be of great importance to their future well-being. By early treatment through specialists we are, no doubt, able to prevent permanent physical or mental injury.

DISTRIBUTION OF VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS AND NATIONAL DRIED MILK

Below are given figures which show the quantities of the various vitamin supplements and National Dried Milk issued in the District during the year.

| <i>Centre</i> | <i>National Dried Milk (Tins)</i> | <i>Cod Liver Oil (Bottles)</i> | <i>Vitamin Tablets (Packets)</i> | <i>Orange Juice (Bottles)</i> |
|----------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Alltwen | 108 | 119 | 10 | 358 |
| Clydach | 6,287 | 1,033 | 181 | 4,521 |
| Craigcynparc | 1,219 | 333 | 28 | 853 |
| Cwmilynfell.... | 801 | 548 | 66 | 1,914 |
| Godrergrraig.... | 381 | 163 | 20 | 453 |
| Gwauncaegurwen | 3,349 | 1,245 | 176 | 4,919 |
| Pontardawe | 16,457 | 2,960 | 924 | 14,865 |
| Trebanos | 194 | 199 | 16 | 908 |
| Ystalyfera | 2,496 | 704 | 96 | 2,744 |
| Mond Nickel Co. | Nil | 34 | 7 | 231 |
| Schools | 31,292 Nil | 7,338 971 | 1,524 Nil | 31,766 4,252 |
| Institutions | Nil | Nil | Nil | 72 |
| TOTALS | 31,292 | 8,309 | 1,524 | 36,090 |

The figures given, which show the total distribution in the District made in co-operation with the Local Food Office, are considered fairly satisfactory. The total distribution of orange juice is a little below the total for the previous year, but the total for National Dried Milk shows a marked increase.

Throughout the year we continued in our efforts to popularize these products and to stress the importance which is attached to them from the public health point of view.

MILK AND DRIED FOODS

The Local Office of the Ministry of Food supplies free or cheap milk to all eligible persons.

The honorary officers of the Sub-Committees which function at the six clinic centres sell various brands of dried foods, etc., at near cost price to all mothers desiring to take advantage of this arrangement. It has been found that the practice of making these sales is very helpful in cases where the family incomes are over our scales for free supply but are insufficient to meet without sacrifice the full cost of special nourishment of which young children are sometimes in need.

ANTE-NATAL SCHEME

One hundred and thirty-five expectant mothers who were to be confined in the District were examined by General Practitioners for the Authority during the year. This was a slight improvement on the number examined the previous year.

In addition to the figure given above 67 expectant mothers were examined at our Ante-Natal Clinic, at Ynisderw House, which was opened late in the year.

HEALTH VISITING OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

The Health Visitor continued to pay visits to the homes of all young children of pre-school age which group comes within our powers as a Maternity and Child Welfare Authority.

Visits paid to children under 1 year of age—Total, 3,512.

Visits paid to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years—
Total, 4,472.

In order that expert advice can be given to mothers at the earliest possible opportunity, information regarding all births belonging to the District is regularly sent to the Health Visitors who then pay early visits to the homes. This service is considered of real value for it helps young mothers to solve many problems.

CHILDREN ATTENDING AT CLINIC CENTRES

The total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the six Infant Centres is as follows:—

Under 1 year at the end of the year 368

Over 1 year, but under 5 years at the end of
the year 987

From the figures given above we can ascertain that approximately 52% of children in the District under 5 years of age attended at the various centres. Were it possible to persuade the parents of the remaining 48% or so to attend one would feel much happier. Experience has shown that the children of parents who neglect to take advantage of the services offered are very often those who stand in greatest need of supervision at our centres.

In the matter of getting mothers to bring their children to the Centres I am convinced that the Sub-Committee members could render valuable service. The members of each Sub-Committee are fairly widely dispersed in every area, therefore they could by approaching young mothers known to them, influence these in the matter of their Clinic attendances.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Twenty-five deaths occurred during the year in children under one year of age who were permanent residents in the District. The total number of deaths in this age group was five less than the figure for the previous year, which in itself was an improvement on the year 1945. The continued reduction in the number of deaths under one year of age has brought our infantile mortality rate down to the average for Rural Districts in England and Wales, which is 45 per 1,000 births.

MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION

Maternity accommodation was found for 44 expectant mothers during the year and these were admitted to Hospital under the new arrangement for admitting cases on my authority as your Medical Officer of Health. In addition to this figure 225 expectant mothers from the District were confined in various hospitals and nursing homes where they had been admitted by private arrangements made between themselves and the Authorities concerned.

ADMITTANCE OF MATERNITY CASES TO WEST GLAMORGAN HOSPITAL

Late in the year, through new arrangements made with the County Authority, it became my duty to select maternity cases from this District for confinement at the Hospital mentioned.

Your Area was allocated 20 beds per month and the expectant mothers whose needs were considered greatest were selected for Institutional confinement.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

The year was free of deaths from maternal causes, and this indeed is very gratifying for such deaths, to say the least, are very disturbing.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

(a) - PREMATURE INFANTS

The Health Visitors were informed of all premature births, whether they occurred in hospitals or at home, and advised to give special attention to such cases.

The total number of children notified whose weights at birth were $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. and under was 23. Twelve of these were born at home and eleven in hospitals or other Institutions. Twenty of these children survived after one month from the date of birth.

(b) ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

The arrangements whereby the Health Visitors offer all possible assistance in cases of illegitimacy still operates. Where necessary such cases were brought before the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for special consideration.

HEALTH VISITING—CLYDACH AREA

During the year the appointment of a full-time Health Visitor for Clydach Area was approved. This appointment was recommended by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

SUPPLY OF SHEETS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Priority Dockets granting priority to expectant mothers in the matter of obtaining bed sheets continued to be obtained from the Board of Trade, and issued to those eligible.

The total number issued during the last year was 411.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number and percentage of children estimated to be immunised against diphtheria at the end of the year in the two age groups listed by the Welsh Board of Health is given below :

| | Percentage of Total No. |
|--|----------------------------|
| Estimated total between the ages of 1 and 5 years— | |
| —1,390 | 67% |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Estimated total between the ages of 5 and 15 years | |
| —3,471 | 73% |

We continued to take special measures aimed at improving our immunised percentages. The people were made aware that children of all ages up to 15 years could be immunised at our Clinic Centres where facilities were available. Birthday cards were sent to children on their first birthday which were designed to bring home to parents the importance of protection against diphtheria. The Health Visitors also paid special visits to homes for the same purpose.

PUERPERAL FEVER

No case of puerperal fever was reported during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Two cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified, one from the Pontardawe area and one from the Gwauncaegurwen area which was admitted to hospital. In neither case was the eyesight impaired.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION

(Sections 206 to 220 Public Health Act, 1936)

It did not become necessary to take action under the sections quoted above during the year.

The Health Visitors, on instructions received from me as your Medical Officer of Health, impressed upon all mothers the importance of good personal habits and the need for ensuring that their young children were free from factors likely to bring ill-health. The Infant Centres were issued with pamphlets which were distributed to Clinic mothers and which were designed to give enlightenment in matters appertaining to domestic cleanliness and personal hygiene.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

The main water supply of the District is derived from the Cray Reservoir by arrangement with the Swansea Corporation. This main source of supply is supplemented from tanks, and springs maintained throughout the Council's Engineering Department.

(1) The water from all sources is such as to give a constant supply to the inhabitants and is satisfactory (a) in quality (b) in quantity.

(2) Chemical analyses of various water supplies were obtained in nine instances, and twenty samples were taken for bacteriological examinations. These samples were taken from raw water and from water going into supply. The results obtained showed the supplies to be satisfactory.

The whole water supply of the District is kept under constant supervision and periodical visits are paid to the sites of springs and tanks, and also to the gathering grounds.

(3) In all cases where samples were taken for chemical analyses there was no evidence to show contamination by lead.

(4) There being no evidence of contamination from lead no action for its eradication became necessary.

(5) The system of stand pipes has ceased to operate in the District. The vast majority of the houses are supplied direct from public water mains.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS

Inspections for the purpose of detecting possible sources of pollution to rivers and streams were undertaken during the year.

Industrial concerns were visited and as in previous years suggestions made to the management, which when acted upon, improved the nature of the effluent discharged to rivers and streams.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

(a) Disinfestation—

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----|
| Number of (1) Council Houses | (1) Infested | 7 |
| | (2) Disinfested | 7 |
| Number of (2) Other Houses | (1) Infested | 48 |
| | (2) Disinfested | 48 |

(b) Methods employed for Disinfecting Houses.

In infected rooms woodwork and paper are stripped from the walls which are then sprayed with insecticide. Articles of furniture are also treated when this is found to be necessary.

In cases where clothing are suspected of being infested arrangements are made for disinfestation at the station situated at Gellynudd Isolation Hospital.

In order to encourage people to help in reducing infestations free supplies of D.D.T. in powder and liquid form are made available by the Department.

SEWAGE AND SEWAGE EFFLUENT

The County Medical Officer of Health sends to the Department copies of the results of samples of sewage and effluent taken from the District's sewage farms. On the whole these were found satisfactory and showed no marked variation from those taken in previous years.

DEVELOPMENT OF SEWERAGE SCHEME

In the outlying districts the system of night soil collection by contractors continues but the need to remedy such a state of affairs has been recognised and arrangements have been placed in hand which will result in a modern method of sewage disposal being made available.

SECTION D.—HOUSING

House Inspection

In the course of the year the Sanitary Inspectors carried out routine inspections with the view to the abatement of overcrowding and nuisances arising from sanitary defects. Particulars of such inspections and the actions taken can be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Section of this Report.

The need to maintain an adequate inspectorate to deal with the problems arising under this and other headings has been stressed in previous reports and can again be reiterated on this occasion.

RE-HOUSING PROGRESS

The strenuous efforts made to provide new homes for the people have resulted in many problems being solved, but the serious shortage still persists.

In the course of the year 86 families were re-housed. All the people concerned were in great need of alternative accommodation through illness, overcrowding, or major disrepair.

ALLOCATION OF HOUSES UNDER THE POINTS SCHEME

The families mentioned in the previous paragraph were granted houses under the Council's Points Scheme for the allocation of houses. This Scheme is designed to bring to the fore the applicants whose needs are greatest. It has been found that in general this method of allocation gives satisfaction. When it is found that the scheme needs modification this is done without hesitation.

HOUSING APPLICATIONS

At the close of the year we had over 1,500 applicants on the waiting list for Council houses. The majority of these were without separate homes, and some lived in distressing conditions.

HOUSING SURVEY

Particulars regarding the progress made in matters affecting the housing survey requested by the Minister can be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Section of this Report.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

SUMMARY OF MILK PRODUCERS, Etc.

| Trade | Parish of | | | | | Outside Area | Total Registered |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------|--------------|------------------|
| | Rhyndwyclydach | Llan-guicke | Cily-bebyll | Ynisymond | Mawr | | |
| Producers | 28 | 50 | 12 | 6 | 51 | 12 | 159 |
| Producer— Retailers | 20 | 42 | 19 | 10 | 13 | 23 | 127 |
| Retailers | 6 | 15 | 1 | Nil | 1 | 5 | 28 |
| Cowkeepers | 7 | 34 | 9 | 6 | 15 | Nil | 71 |
| TOTALS | 61 | 141 | 41 | 22 | 80 | 40 | 385 |

Milk Supply

The farms situated in the District and registered for the purpose of producing milk numbered 251.

The schedule given above shows the distribution of producers, producer/retailers and retailers, etc., registered with this Authority and includes the number of those whose premises are situated outside the Rural District.

Milk Samples

The results obtained of the milk samples examined at the laboratories at Cardiff and Swansea are given below. Percentages are included so that the standard of the District's milk supply can be better appreciated.

| Group | No. Taken | No. Satisfactory | No. Unsatisfactory | % Satisfactory |
|---|-----------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| TOTAL TAKEN—ALL CLASSES | 381 | 339 | 42 | 88·9 |
| City and County Laboratory, Cardiff, Bacteriological Examination | 16 | 7 | 9 | 43·75 |
| Samples taken by Ministry of Agriculture Officials and tested at Swansea Area Laboratory, Resazurin Test | 365 | 332 | 33 | 90·7 |

The milk samples taken and examined for tubercle bacilli were found to be negative.

When unsatisfactory results were received regarding samples taken for cleanliness visits were paid to the premises concerned and advice given on the precautions which needed to be taken to improve the respective supplies.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The particulars given below, which relate to samples and action taken by the Food and Drugs Authority for this Area, have been supplied by Superintendent Charles Pugh. It is desired to thank him for his co-operation.

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|----|--------------------|------|------|---|
| New Milk | .... | .... | .... | 22 | Pickles | .... | .... | 1 |
| Butter | .... | .... | .... | 1 | Soyghetti | .... | .... | 1 |
| Margarine | .... | .... | .... | 1 | Vinegar | .... | .... | 1 |
| Black Currant Flavour(cordial) | | | | 1 | Self-Raising Flour | | | 1 |
| Speciality Flavour Cordial | .... |  |  | 1 | | | | |

Where these products were not found to be of the required standard proceedings were instituted by the County Authority and convictions obtained in a number of cases.

SECTION F. — PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR EACH MONTH, 1947

| Disease | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever | 5 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 2 | — | 15 | 20 | 27 | 98 |
| Whooping Cough | 5 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | — | 1 | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | 25 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 3 | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| „ Polioencephalitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Measles | 4 | 22 | 57 | 27 | 51 | 146 | 125 | 37 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 483 |
| Diphtheria | 4 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 14 |
| Pneumonia | 7 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 36 |
| Dysentery | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Acute Encephalitis-Lethargica | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Erysipelas | 1 | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 7 |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| | 26 | 47 | 67 | 41 | 65 | 156 | 135 | 45 | 3 | 23 | 31 | 37 | 676 |

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

PARTICULARS OF INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1947.

| Disease | Total | WARD OR PARISH | | | | | | | | | | Number of Cases shown admitted to Hospital |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------------|------------|------|-----------|------------|---------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------|--|
| | | Clydach | Gelli-onen | Mawr | Ynisdmond | Cilybebyll | B. & M. | Godrer-graig | Allt-y-grug | Cwm-lyn-fell | Cae-gurwen | |
| Scarlet Fever ... | 98 | 34 | 5 | 4 | ... | 1 | 6 | 5 | 19 | 13 | 11 | 78 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 25 | 4 | 4 | ... | ... | 7 | 5 | 2 | 3 | ... | ... | ... |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... | 5 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 5 |
| Acute Polioencephalitis | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 2 |
| Measles ... | 483 | 34 | 20 | 3 | 5 | 102 | 97 | 64 | 116 | 8 | 34 | 4 |
| Diphtheria ... | 14 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 14 |
| Pneumonia ... | 36 | ... | 3 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 14 | 2 | ... | ... | 4 | 7 |
| Dysentery ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Acute Encephalitis Lethargica | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| Erysipelas ... | 7 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | ... | ... | 1 |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| TOTALS ... | 676 | 77 | 32 | 12 | 7 | 122 | 133 | 75 | 144 | 21 | 53 | 115 |

LIST OF SCARLET FEVER CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1947

| Age Groups | Total | Sex | Ward or Parish | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----|----------------|------------|------|-----------|------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| | | | Clydach | Gelli-onen | Mawr | Ynysymond | Cilybebyll | Blaen-egel and Mawr | Godregraig | Allt-y-grug | Cwmllyn-fell | Caegurwen |
| 0—1 year | — | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1—2 " | 1 | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2—3 " | 3 | M | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3—4 " | 2 | F | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4—5 " | 7 | M | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| 5—10 " | 1 | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10—15 " | 7 | M | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15—25 " | 6 | F | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 25—35 " | 17 | M | 5 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 |
| 35—65 " | 23 | F | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| 65 and over | 10 | M | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| | 4 | F | 1 | 1 | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| | 7 | M | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 2 | F | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 2 | M | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | — | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 98 | | 34 | 5 | 4 | — | 1 | 6 | 5 | 19 | 13 | 11 |

Males 43
 Females 55
 TOTAL 98

LIST OF DIPHTHERIA CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1947

| Age Groups | Total | Sex | Ward of Parish | | | | | | | | | | Admitted to Hospital | Deaths |
|-------------|-------|-----|----------------|-----------|------|------------|-------------|---------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|--------|
| | | | Clydach | Gellionen | Mawr | Ynis-ymond | Cily-bebyll | B. & M. | God-rergraig | Allt-ygrug | Cwm-llynfell | Cae-gurven | | |
| 0—1 | Nil | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1—2 | — | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 2 | F | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — |
| 2—3 | Nil | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3—4 | — | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 1 | F | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| 4—5 | — | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 2 | F | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 2 | — |
| 5—10 | 1 | M | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| | 3 | F | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | — |
| 10—15 | 3 | M | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — |
| | — | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15—25 | — | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 1 | F | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| 25—35 | 1 | M | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| | — | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 35—65 | Nil | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 65 and Over | Nil | M | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTALS | 14 | | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 14 | — |

Males 5

Females 9

Total 14

SCABIES AND MINOR AILMENTS

Persons suffering from Scabies and other minor ailments were treated at Ynisderw House by the Nurse employed on a part-time basis for the purpose.

The cases treated in the course of the year numbered 62. This figure is considerably less than that for previous years, which is taken as evidence that the incidence of these ailments continues to decline.

TUBERCULOSIS.

| AGES | NEW CASES | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|----------------|-------------|------|-----------------|------|-------------|------|-----------------|------|
| | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| 0—1 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 1—5 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 | .... |
| 5—15 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 15—25 | 7 | 6 | .... | .... | 1 | 1 | .... | .... |
| 25—35 | 4 | 14 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | .... | .... |
| 35—45 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | .... | 1 | .... | .... |
| 45—55 | 2 | 1 | .... | 2 | 4 | 2 | .... | .... |
| 55—65 | 4 | 1 | 1 | .... | 4 | .... | .... | .... |
| 65 and upwards | 1 | .... | .... | .... | 1 | .... | .... | .... |
| TOTALS | 22 | 25 | 6 | 9 | 14 | 7 | 1 | .... |

Rate of Incidence of New Cases—1·88 per 1,000 civilian population

Death Rate from this Disease 0·67

,, ,,

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE YEAR.

| Pulmonary | | | Non-Pulmonary | | | Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary |
|-----------|-----|-------|---------------|----|-------|-----------------------------|
| M | F | TOTAL | M | F | TOTAL | TOTAL |
| 122 | 108 | 230 | 44 | 40 | 84 | 314 |

Rate of Incidence : 9·46 per 1,000 civilian population.

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

| Pulmonary | | | Non-Pulmonary | | | Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary |
|-----------|-----|-------|---------------|----|-------|-----------------------------|
| M | F | TOTAL | M | F | TOTAL | TOTAL |
| 131 | 126 | 257 | 46 | 48 | 94 | 351 |

Rate of Incidence : 10·64 per 1,000 civilian population.

CANCER DEATHS

| Total | Site | Sex | AGE GROUPS | | | Clydach | Pontardawe | Ystalyfera | Gwauncae-gurwen |
|-------|---|-----|------------|-------|-----|---------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| | | | 25-45 | 45-65 | 65+ | | | | |
| 6 | Carcinoma of Lung | M | — | 6 | — | 6 | — | — | — |
| 1 | | F | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 1 | Generalised Sarcomatosis and Fibrosarcoma of Naso-pharynx (removed) | M | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| — | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 | Carcinoma of Antrum | M | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| — | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4 | Carcinoma of Breast | F | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | Carcinoma of Ovaries | F | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 1 | Epithelioma of Face | M | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| — | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 | Carcinoma of Tongue | M | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| — | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| — | Lympho-Sarcoma (Neck) | M | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 1 | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 | Carcinoma of Rectum | M | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 2 | | F | — | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 3 | Carcinoma of Prostate Gland | M | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| — | | F | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 | Carcinoma of Uterus | F | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — |

NUMBER VACCINATED IN THE DISTRICT DURING 1947.

| | | <i>Pontardawe</i> | <i>Clydach</i> | <i>Ystalyfera</i> | <i>Gwauncae- gurwen</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Quarter | 31 /3 /47 | 5 | 2 | .... | .... | 7 |
| „ | 30 /6 /47 | 20 | 4 | .... | 1 | 25 |
| „ | 30 /9 /47 | 12 | 1 | 1 | .... | 14 |
| „ | 31 /12 /47 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| TOTALS | | 38 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 52 |

RAINFALL IN 1947— AT WERN HOUSE, YSTALYFERA

| <i>Month</i> | <i>Total Depth</i> | <i>Greatest fall in 24 hours</i> | | <i>Number of days with ·01 or more recorded</i> |
|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|---|
| | INCHES | DATE | INCHES | |
| January | 5·46 | Jan. 13th | ·70 | 19 |
| February | 1·56 | Feb. 25th | ·59 | 9 |
| March | 12·99 | March 12th | 1·61 | 25 |
| April | 6·30 | April 5th | 1·43 | 17 |
| May | 4·17 | May 4th | 1·03 | 21 |
| June | 3·44 | June 14th | ·58 | 17 |
| July | 4·85 | July 20th | ·87 | 17 |
| August | ·63 | Aug. 3rd | ·38 | 3 |
| September | 2·77 | Sept. 15th | ·50 | 16 |
| October | 1·83 | Oct. 21st | ·44 | 12 |
| November | 8·44 | Nov. 21st | 1·55 | 20 |
| December | 6·23 | Dec. 26th | 1·46 | 17 |
| TOTALS | 58·67 | | | 193 |

Rain Gauge

Diameter of Funnels—5 inches.

Height of top—Above ground 1 foot 6 inches.

Above Sea Level, 240 feet.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1947.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1947. The report indicates the manner in which various statutory functions have been carried out and developed during the year.

It is pleasing to note that the curtailment of development necessarily imposed upon certain environmental health services by war emergency is gradually being removed. An increase in the supply of building materials has permitted the enforcement of notices requiring the repair of domestic premises, while the delivery of urgently required refuse vehicles has resulted in the extension of both direct labour and contract collections.

The Rural Housing Survey has been practically completed during the year under review and it is hoped that a still further improvement in the supply of building materials and labour will enable positive action to be taken on the important conclusions drawn from the Survey.

This year has seen the introduction of the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, and the subject is reviewed in detail in this Report. The Regulations are a welcome adjunct to existing legislation and it is hoped that it will be possible to implement them fully at an early date.

Particular attention has been paid to premises where food is prepared and sold, *viz.*, Canteens and Restaurant Kitchens. The increase in the number and usage of these premises renders their supervision of utmost importance.

It is hoped that the instructional and educative measures at present being introduced locally for the benefit of food handlers will result in clean practices based on clear understanding.

Inspections for the Year 1947

| | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| (a) All types of premises under Public Health and Housing Acts | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4,626 |
| (b) Infectious Diseases | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 184 |
| (c) Farms, Cowsheds and Dairies, Milkshops, etc. | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 145 |
| (d) Factories and Workplaces | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 52 |
| (e) Verminous Premises | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 75 |
| (f) Miscellaneous (including Food Stores and Butchers' Shops) | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 288 |
| (g) Inspections under Infestation Order, 1943 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 162 |
| (h) Inspections under Shops Acts, 1912-38 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 537 |

Public Cleansing

(a) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This service is carried out by means of direct labour in the main population centres and by contract in outlying areas. A decentralised continuous system of collection is employed in preference to centralised relay as being more suited to the area.

(i) DIRECT LABOUR ORGANISATION.

| <i>Area</i> | <i>Vehicle</i> | <i>Personnel</i> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Pontardawe | Bedford Lorry, 2/3 ton | 3 |
| Clydach | Ford Lorry, 2/3 ton | 3 |
| Gwauncaegurwen | Bedford Lorry, 5-ton | 3 |
| Ystalyfera | Morris Lorry, 30-cwt. | 3 |
| Salvage (General) | Morris Lorry, 30-cwt. | 3 |
| Refuse Tip Attendants .... | .... | 2 |
| TOTAL | 5 | 17 |

(ii) REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Disposal is effected by a simplified form of controlled tipping. Consideration was given by your Council during the year to disposal by incineration. It was found that a centrally installed incinerator made haulage costs prohibitive, while decentralisation resulted in a high initial cost and correspondingly high labour and maintenance costs. In view of this fact it was decided that the existing system was best suited to the needs of the area.

The following disposal tips are owned, rented or used by the Council.

| <i>Area</i> | <i>Location</i> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Pontardawe | Bryn Works and Carreg-yr-afon Tips. |
| Clydach | Penybanc Tip and Rhyddwen Common. |
| Ystalyfera | Alltygrug and Carreg-yr-afon Tips. |
| Gwauncaegurwen | Brynamman Tip. |
| Cwmllynfell | Bryn Tip. |
| Alltwen and Rhos | Glyndole Tip. |

The system of disposal has been much improved during the year by the appointment of an additional tip attendant to serve the Pontardawe, Godrergraig and Ystalyfera areas.

Land reclamation by controlled tipping has been commenced at Carregyrafon Park playing field. Its completion will result in an increase of usable land to the park concerned.

(iii) CONTRACTS.

Collection and disposal of refuse by contract is effected at Cwmllynfell, Garnswllt, Velindre, Craigcefnparc and Rhydyfandy. During this year collection has been extended to Fforestgoch and Cwmcerdinen.

(iv) SALVAGE.

During the year 58 tons of waste paper were collected and sold to paper mills. It has been found that the trade outlets for salvaged material other than paper are for small quantities only, and so uncertain that collection is uneconomical.

(b) NIGHT SOIL REMOVAL.

This work is carried out by Contractors in the following areas :—

| <i>Area</i> | <i>No. of Pails Removed during year 1947</i> | | |
|---------------|--|------|--------------------|
| Cilybebyll | | | 9,190 |
| Rhydyfro | | | 6,216 |
| Rhiwfawr | | | 4,502 |
| Ynysymond | | | 4,488 |
| Craigcefnparc | | | 1,475 |
| | | | <hr/> 25,871 <hr/> |

Number of pails renewed—86.

The sewerage schemes at present in hand and under consideration by your Council will soon render night soil collection unnecessary in all but the remotest parts of the area.

Factories Act, 1937.

Inspections have been made throughout the year of factories and workplaces falling within the purview of the above Act. As a "District Council" within the Act your authority has the responsibility of ensuring the adequacy and efficiency of ventilation, drainage, cleanliness and temperature in non-power factories and works. Action has been taken as indicated in the Medical Officer of Health's Report to remedy unsatisfactory conditions. Liaison is maintained with H.M. Inspectors of Factories and matters referred by them are given attention.

An important aspect of industrial welfare, *viz.*, canteen facilities is dealt with in the Food Section of this Report.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Infestation Order, 1943.

The above Act is implemented throughout the area. A full-time rodent operative is employed for the purpose and additional labour is recruited for sewer work as necessary. The Ministry of Food system of pre-baiting is employed and found to be a thoroughly efficient remedy for infestations by these pests.

As indicated in the following table of rodent destruction work during the year, nearly 8,000 baits have been laid. Apart from the destruction caused by rats and mice their demonstrably close connection with food poisoning outbreaks makes this service of vital importance.

RODENT DESTRUCTION, 1947.

| | Premises Treated, including Refuse Tips, Brooks, River Banks | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | No. Treated | No. of Baiting Points | No. of Baits Laid | Esti- mated Kill |
| Rhyndwyclydach | 23 | 288 | 1,152 | 463 |
| Gellionen | 9 | 127 | 508 | 179 |
| Blaenegel and Mawr | 31 | 383 | 1,532 | 673 |
| Cilybebyll | 17 | 171 | 684 | 309 |
| Ynisymond | 1 | 17 | 68 | 38 |
| Godrergraig | 22 | 222 | 888 | 472 |
| Alltygrug | 24 | 355 | 1,420 | 764 |
| Cwmllynfell | 6 | 193 | 772 | 812 |
| Caegurwen | 6 | 144 | 576 | 815 |
| Mawr | — | — | — | — |
| TOTALS | 139 | 1,900 | 7,600 | 4,525 |

Shops Acts, 1912-1938.

These duties were first assumed by the Public Health Department, in April of 1946. During the present year attention has been paid mainly to recording the circumstances existing at the various shop premises within the area and assessing the requirements necessary for compliance with the Shops Acts.

It is considered that the prime object of these enactments is to ensure a healthy environment for workers employed in and about Shop premises, and it was to this end that action was taken during 1947. Your Council is empowered to ensure satisfactory provision for heating, lighting, washing, meals and sanitary facilities. Instances have been found during inspections of inadequate facilities in all sections of the above list. Where defects and inadequate facilities were found the owners and occupiers concerned were instructed to carry out the necessary work. Advice and guidance were made available and in no case was prosecution found to be necessary.

Contraventions of closing hours regulations are in the main obviated by lack of supplies and lighting restrictions. The few cases found are small premises outside the town centres supplying general requirements. Occupiers are in the first instance made aware of the penalties attaching to closing contraventions and instructed to adhere to legal closing hours.

Total shop premises in area—981.

Rural Housing Survey

The above survey was brought to practical completion during 1947.

Preliminary categorisation indicates the following conditions to exist in the area.

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Houses</i> | | | | |
| <i>Surveyed</i> | <i>Category 1</i> | <i>Category 2</i> | <i>Category 3</i> | <i>Category 4</i> |
| 8,410 | 4,736 | 2,097 | 1,226 | 351 |

CATEGORISATION.

Category 1—Houses that are fit in all respects.

Category 2—Houses with minor defects.

Category 3—Houses requiring reconstruction or major repairs.

Category 4—Houses incapable of repair requiring demolition

Detailed consideration and costing of actual repairs may result in an inter-exchange between categories 3 and 4.

The Housing Survey has indicated the standard of housing in general and those premises where particular action is needed. It is clear that action for repair to a varying degree will be necessary in some 3,600 houses. The extent and importance of the work involved in ensuring the satisfactory repair of these premises cannot be too strongly emphasised. Adequate inspectorial staff making possible a determined insistence on the repair of these substandard premises will prevent their further deterioration and help to improve the environment and health of the occupants.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year (including Housing Survey)

- | | | |
|---------|--|-------|
| (1) (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) | 4,224 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose.... | 4,626 |
| (2) (a) | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) (above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | 3,369 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 3,369 |
| (3) | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 107 |
| (4) | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation | 1,942 |

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|-----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | | | | 342 |
|---|------|------|------|-----|

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

| | | | |
|---|------|------|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | | | 2 |
|---|------|------|---|

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

| | | |
|--|------|---|
| (a) by Owners (in process of completion) | | 1 |
|--|------|---|

| | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|---|
| (b) by Local Authority in default of Owners (in process of completion) | | | | 1 |
|--|------|------|------|---|

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | | | | | | | 175 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|

| | | |
|--|------|----|
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices | | 16 |
|--|------|----|

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|----|
| (a) by Owners | | | | | | 16 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|----|

| | | |
|---|------|-----|
| (b) by Local Authority in default of Owners | | Nil |
|---|------|-----|

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | | | | 1 |
|---|------|------|------|---|

| | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|---|
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | | | | 1 |
|--|------|------|------|---|

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | Nil |

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 468 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 758 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3,468 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 163 |
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 86 |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 355 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | Nil |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | Nil |

Milk Supply

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| (a) Number of Inspections made of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops during the year | | | | | | | 145 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|

| | | |
|---|-------|-----|
| (b) Number of Cowsheds erected | ..... | Nil |
| (c) Number of Cowsheds which were internally re-conditioned, new floors and channels in cement concrete, additional windows fixed for improving the lighting and ventilation, new stalls and troughs, etc., erected | ..... | 14 |
| (d) New Dairies erected | ..... | Nil |
| (e) Number of Cowsheds limewashed on internal surfaces of walls, and interior of roofs cleansed as the result of informal action taken | ..... | 75 |

Samples of graded and ungraded milk have been taken frequently. Particulars of these are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

Meat

The slaughtering of animals is, under an Order made in 1940, centralised at Swansea and Llandilo. Meat for consumption within the area is delivered by van from these establishments to allocation depots at Clydach and Ystalyfera, local distribution being effected from these depots.

Inspections of meat are carried out at the allocation depots and at retail premises. Bone taint was again responsible for the large quantity of meat condemned during the year. This condition develops in carcasses after slaughter and becomes apparent only during jointing. The fact that no condemnation was necessary for other conditions or diseases is indicative of the high standard of meat inspection maintained at the central abattoirs concerned.

Butchers' Shops

Inspections of butchers' shops and vans engaged in meat delivery in the area—288.

It was found that a high standard of cleanliness obtained at butchery establishments generally. Insistence was made on clean practices, particularly in relation to prepared meat dishes, and detailed explanations given of the relation of these foods to food poisoning outbreaks.

Other Foods

(a) UNFIT FOODS.

The following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption :—

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|------|----------|------------------|------|------------|
| Sugar | .... | 68 lbs. | Bacon and Ham | .... | 141½ lbs. |
| Butter | .... | 18½ lbs. | Cereals | .... | 16 lbs. |
| Cheese | .... | 76 lbs. | Dried Fruit | .... | 287 lbs. |
| Eggs | .... | 3 doz. | Fish (Wet) | .... | 203 lbs. |
| Frizzettes | .... | 23 pkts. | Kippers | .... | 56 lbs. |
| Flour Mixtures | .... | 36 pkts. | Fish Cakes | .... | 12 doz. |
| Margarine | .... | 24 lbs. | Meat (Fresh) | .... | 332¾ lbs. |
| Pudding Mixture | .... | 60 pkts. | Meat (Canned) | .... | 123 tins |
| Sweets | .... | 8½ lbs. | Tea | .... | 23¾ lbs. |
| Baking Powder | .... | 50 lbs. | Tomatoes (fresh) | .... | 130 lbs. |
| Tins (Assorted) | .... | 420 tins | Rice Macaroni | .... | 28 lbs. |
| Rice | .... | 110 lbs. | Sausage | .... | 36 lbs. |
| Jam | .... | 28 lbs. | Meat (Imported) | .... | 1,100 lbs. |

In every case certificates were given to the retailer in order to ensure replacement of stock.

(b) SALE AND STORAGE OF FOODS

Supervision of food premises is exercised under Section 13, Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Routine inspections are also carried out during Shops Acts inspections. Efforts are made to ensure that food sold in the area is, prior to sale, stored in structurally sound and clean conditions and that no contamination occurs at any time. Card index records of these premises are maintained in the Department.

(c) ICECREAM

This commodity is becoming increasingly regarded as a food by the general public. This fact, coupled with its absence from the market during war years, has accounted for a great increase in consumption. Although this increased consumption is spread over the population as a whole, children are responsible for the greater part of it.

These facts would in the case of many foods present no disturbing factor. In the case of icecream, however, its composition renders it potentially capable of harbouring and transmitting many of the milk-borne type diseases, and its large scale consumption, particularly by children, makes it absolutely essential that strict supervision is exercised over all branches of production and sale.

It is for this reason that the Icecream (Heat Treatment) Regulations introduced during the year have been generally welcomed. These Regulations make it an offence to retail icecream that has not been subjected to heat treatment at some stage during its manufacture, and render the old "back room" method of preparation not only obsolete, but illegal.

Generally speaking, it is now necessary for an icecream maker to provide equipment capable of boiling and cooling the mix prior to freezing. This process deals effectively with any contamination that might occur before freezing.

All icecream makers in the area have been notified by advertisement and circular of the import and application of the new requirements, a simplified precis of the Regulations being also provided for information. They have also been informed that it is an offence to sell icecream that has not been so treated.

In order to assist manufacturers within the area full details of suitable types of plant have been acquired from the various makers and it is now possible to advise on the best type of plant to meet the needs of each particular case. Inspections are made regularly, where necessary, during actual manufacture, and advice given as to the hygienic measures essential for the manufacturing of a satisfactory product.

Numerous manufacturers in the area have placed orders for new plant and are in process of reconstructing their premises.

It is considered that these Regulations together with the other statutory provisions concerning icecream will provide adequate power for complete control of this product.

(d) CATERING PREMISES

These premises may be divided into two categories—

- (i) Public Restaurants and Cafes.
- (ii) School and Industrial Canteens.

Both types have in common the fact that food is stored and prepared on the same premises as it is sold. While this area, being industrial, has already within its boundary premises of both types, recent advances in school and industrial welfare have greatly increased the number of canteen premises.

Public restaurants and cafes are in this area generally of a small type and present no particular difficulty in the matter of supervision. Canteens however are responsible for a large scale distribution of prepared foodstuffs and it is in this field that the greater portion of supervisory work must lie.

School canteens in the area are primarily dealt with by the County Council's own organisation and attain a very high standard of construction, meal quality and hygienic practice.

Industrial canteens are situated among works and pits, and are patronised almost exclusively by workmen in their working clothes. These environmental factors have a tendency to cause a lowering of cleanliness standards and constant supervision is necessary.

The main work undertaken by this Department is effecting improvements in catering standards which may be broadly classified as follows :-

- (a) Inspectorial and Advisory.
- (b) Educative.

(a) INSPECTORIAL AND ADVISORY

Inspections are made of catering premises and contraventions of legal requirements notified to those responsible for rectification. Contraventions of the accepted principles of catering hygiene are also noted and the management informed. Advice is given as to the best method of remedying the defects and adequate reasons given for discontinuing unhygienic practices.

(b) EDUCATIVE

In this wider field a great deal of useful work is possible. Lecture notes have been prepared on catering hygiene, including food poisoning, insect pests and the use of detergents. It is intended to conduct a series of lectures at Ynisderw House for canteen and kitchen staffs on these subjects. It is thought that a thorough understanding by such staffs of the principles involved will lead in practice to an automatic implementation of these principles.

It should be stated that both management works Committees and Staffs of catering premises in the area have at all times shown a commendable readiness to co-operate with the Department's Officers in promoting hygienic conditions.

Infectious Diseases

| | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of investigations made of Notified Infectious Disease cases | 111 |
| 2. Number of premises fumigated or otherwise disinfected | 131 |
| 3—Number of cases where clothes were steam disinfected | 131 |
| 4. (a) Number of cases where bedding was destroyed after Tuberculosis | 3 |
| (b) Compensation paid for such bedding under Section 167, Public Health Act, 1936 | £13 |

Householders were provided with disinfectant and disinfecting soap, precautionary measures for preventing spread of infection being fully explained. Special attention was paid to those cases nursed at home. All children of school age were excluded for the appropriate time.

Departmental Distribution of Disinfectants and Insecticides

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| D.D.T. Powder | 1,279 packets |
| Disinfectant | 181 tins and bottles (various) |
| D.D.T. Spray | 128 bottles (various) |
| Rat Biscuits | 144 issues |
| Soap (Disinfectant) | 186½ lbs. |

Contact poisons in the form of D.D.T. have again proved of inestimable value in combating insect infestations. They are simple of application and in combination with “Knock-down” types of insecticides provide an effective agent for insect destruction.

IEUAN LEWIS,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.



